

Remarks

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the careful examination of this application and the clear explanation of the rejections.

The amended title is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The amended abstract is now an adequate and clear statement of the contents of the disclosure.

The specification amendment states the claim of priority.

The new claims "particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter the applicant regards as his invention."

Independent claim 12 defines a process of testing an integrated circuit.

The process applies stimulus test signals to input pads of the integrated circuit.

The process conveys the applied stimulus test signals to core circuits in the integrated circuit.

The process produces core test response output signals from the core circuits in response to the stimulus test signals.

The process applies expected response test signals to output pads of the integrated circuit.

The process compares the core test response output signals to the expected response test signals on the integrated circuit to produce a pass/fail signal.

In contrast, neither US 5,434,513 to Fuji nor US 5,912,563 to Garnett discloses or suggests the steps of applying expected response test signals to output pads of the integrated circuit, and comparing the core test response output signals to the expected response test signals on the integrated circuit to produce a pass/fail signal.

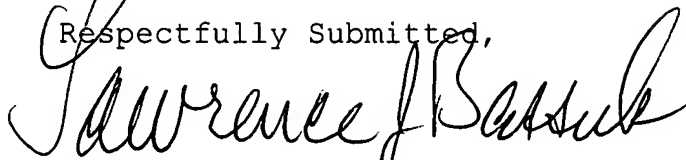
Neither the Fuji nor Garnett patents disclose or suggest the matter of claim 13: switching output buffer circuitry from output circuitry to input circuitry to accept the applied expected response test signals.

Neither the Fuji nor Garnett patents disclose or suggest the matter of claim 14: applying stimulus test signals to input pads of plural integrated circuits in parallel.

Neither the Fuji nor Garnett patents disclose or suggest the matter of claim 15: applying expected response test signals to output pads of plural integrated circuits in parallel.

The application is in allowable form and the claims distinguish over the cited references. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration or further examination of this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lawrence J. Bassuk". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Lawrence J. Bassuk
Reg. No. 29,043
Attorney for Applicant

Texas Instruments Incorporated
P. O. Box 655474, MS 3999
Dallas, Texas 75265
972-917-5458